



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,129	12/11/2001	Vij Rajarajan	MS167419.2/40062.151USU1	1970

27488 7590 04/28/2004

MERCHANT & GOULD
P.O. BOX 2903
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CINDY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2171

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/015,129

Applicant(s)

RAJARAJAN ET AL.

Examiner

Cindy Nguyen

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6 . 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to amendments filed 03/29/04.

1. *Information Disclosure Statement*

The information disclosure statement filed on 12/04/03 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609. Because it has been placed in the application file, and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

2. *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. *Claims 1-5, 7-16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Van Huben (U.S 5950201).*

Regarding claims 1 and 8, Van Huben discloses: a method and a computer program of managing resources in a distributed network managed by a network administrator, each resource having a least one managed object and each resource of performing one or more tasks that modify the resource, the method comprising:

Receiving a query to modify the distributed network from a client computer system in the distributed network (col. 27, lines 10 to col. 28, lines 10, Van Huben);

Art Unit: 2171

Accessing a plurality of resources in response to the query (col. 27, lines 22-32, Van Huben);

Providing management task options to the client computer related to the query, the management task options including tasks from more than one resource (col. 28, lines 40-61, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 12, Van Huben discloses: In a network environment having a plurality of managers for use by a network administrator to manage multiple resources, each resource having data and capable of performing one or more tasks as directed by the network administrator that modify the resource, a computer and encoding instructions for executing a method, the method comprising:

receiving a notification that a new resource has been installed on the network environment (col. 31, lines 18-38, Van Huben);

retrieving search information associated with data and tasks of the new resource (col. 31, lines 18-38, Van Huben);

storing the first portion of the search information in a first manager data store (col. 32, lines 9-45, Van Huben); and

determining that a second portion of the search information relates to a second manager (col. 35, lines 30-55, Van Huben);

storing the second portion of the search information in a second manager data store (col. 39, lines 10-25, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 2, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the method further comprises:

Art Unit: 2171

receiving a request to display an instance of a managed object managed by a first resource (col. 27, lines 33-51, Van Huben);

displaying attribute information related to the managed object (col. 27, lines 52-59, Van Huben); and

displaying task information received from at least two back-end resources in response to the request to display (col. 27 lines 52 col. 28, lines 10, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 3, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the a first source includes a search handler performing search functions on the first resource and method further comprises: receiving search handler information related to search functions on the first resource (col. 31, lines 48-65, Van Huben);

In response to the query retrieving data from the at least one managed object on the first resource using the search handler (col. 32, lines 9-45, Van Huben); and display the data (col. 33, lines 7-67, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 4, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 3. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the search handler relates to a search engine on the first resource (col. 35, lines 65 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 5, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 3. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the search handler relates to search engines on more than one resource (col. 35, lines 65 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 7, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the method further comprising: associating a

Art Unit: 2171

first search component with a first object type, wherein the first search component relates to object attributes managed by a first resource (col. 33, lines 7 to col. 34, lines 11, Van Huben); and associating a second search component with the first object type, wherein the second search component relates to object attributes managed by a second resource (col. 33, lines 7 to col. 34, lines 11, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 9, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claims 1 and 2. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 10, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claims 3 and 8. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 11, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claims 7 and 8. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 13, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 12. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the notification includes the search information (col. 31, lines 18-38, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 14, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 12. In addition, Van Huben/Li discloses: wherein the search information relates to an object type managed by the first manager, the method further comprising:

determining whether the search information relates to an existing object of the object type, the existing object including information from at least one second resource; (col. 35, lines 1 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben);

if so, associating the search information with the existing object (col. 35, lines 1 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben); and

Art Unit: 2171

if not, associating the search information with a new object (col. 35, lines 1 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 15, Van Huben discloses: A system for query-based management of a network having a plurality of resources, each resource having data and capable of performing one or more tasks that modify the resource as directed by a network administrator via a client computer, comprising:

a management module (420, fig. 6 and corresponding text, Van Huben) in communication with the plurality of resources, the management module capable of receiving a query from the client computer (col. 32, lines 9-45, Van Huben), search information from the plurality of resources (col. 33, lines 30-67, Van Huben); and

in response to the receipt of the query, the management module performing search functions on more than one resource to display accessed information (col. 35, lines 30 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben), displaying search information received from the more than one resource, and providing access to the client computer to one or more resource tasks related to the query, each task resulting in the modification of at least one resource on the network (col. 27, lines 52 to col. 28, lines 10, Van Huben).

Regarding claim 16, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 15. In addition, Van Huben/Li discloses: wherein the management module comprises a search manager to receive and store search information (col. 33, lines 1-12, Van Huben), the search manager further communicates with the resources to perform searches based on the query (col. 35, lines 30-49, Van Huben).

Art Unit: 2171

Regarding claim 18, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 17. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein one of the resources has a dedicated search engine for performing searches (col. 35, lines 1 to col. 36, lines 5, Van Huben).

4. *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identical to the prior art if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben (U.S. 6154738) in view of Li et al. (U.S. 5911138) (Li).

Regarding claim 6, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 3. In addition, Van Huben discloses: wherein the method further comprises: in response to the query, retrieving search handler information stored in a search store (col. 29, lines 54 to col. 30, lines 41, Van Huben). However, Van Huben didn't disclose: displaying search handler information from the search store to allow the user to refine the query. On the other hand, Li discloses: displaying search handler information from the search store to allow the user to refine the query (col. 7, lines 23-38, Li). Thus, at the time invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include displaying search handler information from the search store to allow the user to refine the query in the system of Van Huben as taught by Li. The motivation being to enable the user input and run the query, the results of the query

Art Unit: 2171

statement are displayed in the graphical representation chosen by the users in a graph window which satisfy the conditions of the query statement (col. 7, lines 38 to col. 8, lines 48, Li).

6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Huben (U.S. 6154738) in view of Call (US 6154738).

Regarding claim 17, all the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 16. In addition, Van Huben didn't disclose: wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the search manager in XML format. On the other hand, Call discloses: wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the search manager in XML format (col. 28, lines 44-57, Van Huben). Thus, at the time invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include resources provides information to the search manager in XML format in the system of Van Huben as taught by Call. The motivation being to enable the system provided XML format for issues a request for XML product information to the product information server maintained by the manufactures of the product (col. 29, lines 1-11, Call).

7. *Response to Arguments*

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

Art Unit: 2171

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gish (U.S 6052711) Object-oriented system, method and article of manufacture for a client server session web access in an interprise computing framework system.

Meltzer et al. (U.S 6125391). Market makers using documents for commerce in trading partner networks.

9. Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cindy Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-4698. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:00-5:00.

Art Unit: 2171

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



Cindy Nguyen
April 22, 2004


WAYNE AMSBURY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER